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The Highlander

Haliburton County's Independent Voice

Friday **28 October 2011** | Issue 4

FREE

Ryan Kennedy, 21, honoured by family and community

By Stephen Patrick

"He was just so happy. He was just a sweet, kind, happy guy. He was my brother and my best friend," says Heather Kennedy of Minden of her younger brother who was murdered last week on South Lake Road.

"And now, because of one insane act by someone he'd never known or met, our lives are shattered and changed forever."

Ryan Kennedy was one of two children raised by James and Debbie. The two siblings were born here and spent almost all their lives in the Highlands. Heather went to Georgian College where she became a successful designer (she was the County Voice designer for its last 18 months, and is now production manager and designer with The Highlander).

Ryan was a graduate of Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, and worked with his father in their construction business. The Kennedys are a very close-knit and loving family and Ryan's sudden death was like some obscene intrusion of other-worldly horror into their well-ordered, hard-working lives.

"Ryan was my rock in this world, and I was his," says Heather. "My parents brought us up to support each other, and them, through thick and thin. Since last Wednesday my mom and dad, and

my partner Derek, have really kept me going, and I hope I've helped them as well."

Ryan's former coaches and teachers at Hal High spoke of him very highly, noting what a kind and generous student he'd been.

Heather gets particularly upset at the rumours surrounding the death, and the alleged connection of the suspects with the drug trade. "My brother was not linked to any drug scene at all. We've had Ontario's Chief Detective Inspector here at our house tell us that he was simply at the wrong place at the wrong time. It's hard to say, but this was unstoppable. Ryan wasn't feeling well that day, but felt better after dinner, and simply went out to spend a bit of time with a buddy."

"It could have been anybody, but it wasn't. It was my brother. And we'll have to live with that for the rest of our lives."

At the Celebration of Life for Ryan held yesterday afternoon, the family was looking forward to hearing funny and sad tales of Ryan's life, as Heather said, "which is just what Ryan would have wanted."

The afternoon turned cold, but that didn't stop literally hundreds of predominately young people from lining up outside Monk's Funeral Home in Minden to pay tribute to a life cut tragically short.



Heather and Ryan Kennedy: "He was my brother and best friend."

Third man arrested, charged with first degree murder

By Terrance Gavan

OPP spokesperson Constable Sandy Adams reported last Saturday afternoon that Rapheal Guerra, 26, of Toronto had been charged with first degree murder and attempted murder. That brings to three the number of men currently suspected in the tragic death of Minden's Ryan Kennedy and the attempted murder of another man on October 19th in Minden Hills.

Kennedy and the other man had been found in a house on South Lake Road in Minden Hills, the victims of a violent break and enter. Mr. Guerra was arrested on October 21.

Kennedy was pronounced dead at Minden Hospital on Thursday morning and the other man was taken to hospital and released later that day. Constable Adams says the surviving man will not be named because the OPP does not release

Continued on page 3



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County news

The Ghouls of Wonderland Road

This year you can take the tour and donate to the 4-Cs

By Terrance Gavan

I'm not spillin' the beans. You'll have to go experience the shivering ambience of an intriguing and mesmerizing walking tour of horror with the kids yourself.

Oh yes, bring the kids. For gosh sakes bring the kids. They will love it; and they will love you for taking them.

And no, I'm not going to spoil the surprise that awaits you on Wonderland Road – just off CR 21 and about five minutes from The Independent in Haliburton.

But I will tell you that as I was sneaking some pictures of Haliburton's famous – or infamous – haunted house at 1280 Wonderland Road late last Tuesday evening, I had the bee-jeepers scared out of me by one of the two principals involved in this absolutely stunning labor of love.

I was just off the curling rink, and it was late. I was the only one in the yard. I was taking a few pics of a pumpkin-butt skeletonized musher on a dog sled from hell, being pulled by three, hmm... well, you'll have to go see for yourself.

Flash-popping and totally engaged in the task at hand, I did not see a figure slowly making his way to my vulnerable position in that Stephen King landscape.

"Ahh, The Highlander, I thought it was you," said a voice behind me in the dark.

Okay, so I keep an extra pair of Calvin Kleins in my Jeep at all times for occasions just like this. No, I didn't need them but t'was darn close.

Backing up, I peered over the cobwebs and saw the disembodied head of Alex Bell, who, along with his wife Cathy Barnett are responsible for this tour de force Halloween event. "It is you," said Alex.

And then, well past anyone's normal bedtime, Bell proceeded to walk me through the yard and the big tent. Trust me. This year's show is a rock-solid wowser. When my hands stopped shaking, I grabbed my camera and snapped like mad – see the slideshow and movie up on our website at haliburtonhighlander.ca – as Bell proceeded to blame it all on his wife Cathy.

Now, this is just Alex being Alex, because while Barnett admits that she is the spinning cog that drives the engine, husband Alex is the man charged with the externals and support. He loves it.

This is year six of their House on Elm Street reincarnation and both Bell and Barnett agree on one

thing: this is the biggest show yet. A front yard, three tents and a walking tour that starts in the woods, maneuvers through two small tents and then opens into the huge carnival-style big top that marks the end of the twilight zone amble.

"Last year we called it the tunnel of doom and this year, well, this year it's known as Terror on Wonderland Road," explains Barnett.

Halloween is on a Monday this year so Barnett says that they are still thinking about opening the tour for a day on the weekend. Of course, it's a work in progress until the very end. "Gee, I still have 10 bodies lying around the house that I have to finish dressing," laughs Barnett. "We were contemplating letting people go through early, on the weekend, but we haven't decided on that yet."

Things are a go for the Monday tour of course and you can always do a drive by. "I've got cobwebs to put up and bodies to drag out of the house," says Barnett.

Okay, so now I'm thinking of a t-shirt I bought at Freddie Eaglesmith's concert last Thursday.

"You're spookin the horses... and you're scaring me."

But seriously? It's kid-friendly. It's wonder on Wonderland.

Barnett and Bell picked up 150 pumpkins this week and they distributed them to Haliburton High School and JD Hodgson.

"I said to Alex 'some kids might not get to carve a pumpkin' and so we let them carve their own and we place them all around the yard," says Barnett. "It's great because the kids all come out and start searching for their pumpkin. It's nice."

Even nicer? The couple does not charge for any of this. However, last year Barnett said that some people just dropped off donations. That posed a bit of a problem. What to do with the money?

"It's nice of them to offer, but we do it because we love it," says Barnett. They gave that money to charity last year. "Then we started thinking," she says. "Why don't we help people out?" So this year they have put some bins out and if people would like to donate to a superb cause they can bring non-perishable items to their tour. "We're donating any money and any food to the 4Cs."

And that is, pure and simple, one heckuva nice idea. "I really hope people will donate to the food bank because winter's hard on all the people around here," says Barnett. "That's what the food banks are for."

Come out Haliburton County. And bring a can of food or a donation.

Put the trick back in the treat.



Even zombies like to have a little fun on this Wonderland Road jungle gym /Photo - Terrance Gavan

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County news

Homicide investigation ongoing

Continued from page 1

the identities of victims. He is also possibly a witness to Kennedy’s murder.

Speculation has been rife in Haliburton County that it was a “targeted hit,” but The Highlander has not been able to confirm any of those theories. Adams said that she could not confirm whether the murder and assault were related to drugs or money, adding that the OPP cannot discuss scenarios that delve into an ongoing investigation.

Guerra was remanded into custody and will appear at the Ontario Court of Justice, at the City of Kawartha Lakes, on November 10. Joining him will be Tin Wai Hong, 27, and Mason Gillard-Gatza, 19, both of Toronto, who were charged with first degree murder and attempted murder two days before Guerra.

Suspect has Facebook page

Many local students who knew Kennedy looked-up the suspects online and found a Mason Gillard-Gatza profile on Facebook. The profile contains links to profiles of family members, including one to his brother, Omar Attia, also a Toronto resident.

“I don’t know how to feel, so many things going on in my head,” Attia posted on October 22, the day after Gillard-Gatza’s arrest. “Its a hard pill to swallow, what now? I lost a Brother, a Friend, My Ride or f-ing Die. My righthand man, what do I do from here? This is a Nightmare that Im never waking up from. And I know deap down inside, not to far down the road, the fork is neer.” [sic]

Gillard-Gatza’s page does not overtly mention any gang activity. The last post was dated Sunday, October 16.

Charges indicate police believe the attack was planned

The severity of the charges indicates that police believe the three accused came to Minden with homicidal intent. Constable Adams said she could provide no further details other than to say the charges are all supported by evidence obtained during the investigation. “Every one of the facts and issues in the case supports the first degree murder charges,” she stated.

The Criminal Code defines first degree murder as “killing someone where the killer meant to cause the person’s death or *meant to cause bodily harm* that was likely to result in their death.” By definition, some killings that aren’t premeditated are still automatically first-degree, such as the killing of a police officer or when the killing takes place during the commission of a hijacking, kidnapping or sexual assault. Those convicted of first-degree murder receive an automatic life sentence with no chance of parole for 25 years.

The investigation is continuing under the direction of Detective Inspector Colleen McCormick of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB), with the assistance of the City of Kawartha Lakes – Haliburton Highlands OPP Criminal Investigations Unit.



An OPP patrol car waits outside the Minden home that was the scene of a vicious assault on 19 October.

Children’s Aid dispute gets new mediator

The bitter dispute between the Kawartha – Haliburton Children’s Aid Society and their front line workers may be on the verge of a negotiated settlement.

OPSEU Local 334 President Jennifer Smith told The Highlander that a new mediator, Steve Marks, has been appointed and that talks were set to resume this coming Tuesday, November 1st. “We’re hopeful that some key issues will be resolved, and that we will have an offer to present to our membership by Wednesday night.

“Our mandate, however, is to stay out until the very serious issues are resolved, and we’re sticking to our guns. We don’t want to be out on strike, but the workplace conditions and work overload must be addressed.”

CAS Executive Director Hugh Nicholson was also quietly optimistic: “we’ve already put a lot on the table, but I understand there’s still a lot of work to do. I sincerely hope we have resolution next week.”

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Editorial opinion



Who wrote that?

By Stephen Patrick – Editor-in-Chief

“And that’s fer damshur!” (Ma Murray – former editorialist for the Bridge River – Lillooet News)

“So who wrote that editorial, anyway?”

Since the inception of The Highlander just four weeks ago, we’ve included a number of unsigned editorials, in addition to my own signed opinion pieces, and those of publisher Bram Lebo. The Highlander also features a number of columnists, including Penny Brown on *Aging Well*, an occasional political take by our publishing advisor Jack Brezina, staffer Terrance Gavan’s eclectic and sometimes outrageous *Pardon the Eruption* sports column, and of course the redoubtable Will Jones on all matter of Highlands events.

And speaking of columnists, we need to be very careful to label columns as columns, not as reportage, which we didn’t do properly in Terry’s Don Cherry piece in last week’s issue. In any event, this week we introduce another point of view, in local artist Victoria Ward’s *State of the Art*, a personal take on art, its politics and how as artists and writers we relate to the wider world (and vice versa).

But those unsigned pieces have raised the eyebrows of many of our readers, in part I think because it is not a traditional route for local newspapers to follow. We’re all familiar with the great daily newspapers of the world trumpeting their collective opinions of the day’s events under the shield of total anonymity. Often the target of heated derision, nevertheless those editorials for decades were a very important part of the public debate. Even today, the Toronto Star’s endorsement in the last federal election of the NDP was shocking and deeply upsetting to many Liberals, who for over a century have counted on the Star’s support.

So who writes those anonymous editorials anyway, and how do newspapers arrive at their editorial viewpoints? Firstly, most newspapers have a clear, if sometimes undeclared, political affiliation. The Star is generally Liberal, the Globe was Tory for many years, Sun Media is stridently right wing and the National Post ditto, at least in its halcyon Conrad Black days. So it wasn’t a shock to see the Post, say, backing Prime Minister Harper, or his positions on gun control, or deficits.

On most papers, within that ideological framework, positions are arrived at through “editorial boards,” generally made up of the editorial page editor, the editor-in-chief and often major columnists or senior writers. Occasionally, even the publisher is at the table. Once the position is arrived at, a writer is assigned the task of producing four or five hundred pithy words to hammer that position home.

Many prominent national writers toil long and hard in unsung anonymity crafting their paper’s (and to be fair, often their own) view of the world. For some newspaper junkies it also offers the fun game of trying to pick out the individual editorialist (Maclean’s Andrew Coyne was one of the Globe’s resident pit-bulls and without question had his own style.)

But local newspapers have shied away from the practice in the main because in a small community, it seldom pays to alienate large segments of your readership (and your advertising base) by declaring an overt political or social interest. It’s one thing for *me* to criticize Dysart Council, for example: they can always just blame me, and not the paper; people can always pick up the phone, or the pen, or the keyboard, and let me have it. There will be times, however, when we believe that an issue deserves the benefit of our collective thoughts, wisdom, biases, etc.

This issue we weigh in on the always contentious issue of marijuana legalization. We realize that The Highlander’s point of view will not please everyone. But part of our job, as we see it, is to start debate, to get the issues aired, and yes, to create some controversy.

On this issue, as always, please feel free to let us know what you think at letters@haliburtonhighlander.ca.

The vile fruits of ignorance

Most of us when faced with a problem turn to experts. Dentists for our teeth; lawyers for a will; electricians for complicated wiring. Trying to sort out these things on our own all too often leads to the problem ending up worse than when it began.

Not so our federal politicians, many of whom proclaim at every opportunity how they know what’s best for us, no matter what the so-called experts say. The most recent and disturbing example is with their law-and-order agenda, particularly as it relates to drugs like marijuana.

It matters not to them that the Canadian Medical Association and the Canadian Bar Association — hardly bastions of pot-smoking hippies — advocate for decriminalization. Or that a Senate committee found no link between marijuana and other drugs and recommended the government treat smoking pot as a health, not criminal issue. Or that the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (yes, you read that correctly) advocates decriminalization so that law enforcement can focus on real crime.

It makes no difference that one in three Canadians, including Dalton McGuinty and Tim Hudak, have smoked the stuff, or that over 50 percent of us want it legalized, including a group of older women who confronted Barry Devolin during the election campaign over using it for arthritis. It makes no difference that people who use marijuana are almost never violent or a threat to society.

Or that the so-called War on Drugs has been a colossal failure in the United States, leading to the highest incarceration rate in the world, a generation of youth marked by criminal records, and more violence, corruption and drug smoking than before that whole sorry enterprise began.

Or that legalization in Portugal and the Netherlands has resulted in lower drug use, or that nobody anywhere has ever died of an overdose compared to the thousands who die each year from alcohol and tobacco-related illnesses.

Facts, to political actors of many stripes, are not relevant when exercising their awesome responsibility of determining who goes to jail for what.

Unfortunately, this kind of ignorance has consequences. We do not know exactly what happened on South Lake

Road in Minden last week — not yet anyway. But it appears there is a direct line between “tough” drug policies and the violence that shattered our rural idyll just over a week ago.

Whatever the law, demand — the very human urge to seek comfort or feed an addiction — never goes away; so when you make something illegal, all you do is invite criminals to fulfil it. The only way to lower demand, proven time and time again in experiences from alcohol prohibition to needle exchanges, is to get the problem out in the open and deal with it adult-to-adult. Unfortunately, some people still prefer the patently ineffective and counterproductive approach of draconian criminal laws. They prefer to treat us like children, not permitted to choose how we spend our free time.

We can pick up a bottle at the liquor store or a prescription at the pharmacy. We hop ourselves up on double-doubles and then take a Nytol to help us sleep. But when it comes to a toke — suddenly the same puritans who approve of government advertisements for casinos want to bring back 19th century gaols, destroying young lives in the process. Besides being utter nonsense, the policy reeks of discrimination against youth, the mentally ill and those unfortunate enough to have addictions; it turns the state into an ugly, moralizing, overbearing monger of punishment and disenfranchisement.

They are hypocrites, all. Let he who is without alcohol, Prozac, coffee, Oxycontin, Valium, Wellbutrin, Zoloft, Xanax or a myriad of other stimulants, relaxants and other mind-altering substances cast the first stoner into the hell of incarceration.

Anyone?

Never in human history has a government eliminated vice or natural human urges through prohibition — the result is always violence. The truth is, if people were allowed to grow marijuana on their own properties, or if it were available at the liquor store, there would be no criminal drug gangs in Haliburton.

We reject this cycle of ignorance and violence. We’ve managed to get the government out of our bedrooms and doctors offices, now even out of our gun cabinets. It’s time, once and for all, to get them off of our backs and out of our backyards, too.

Legalize it now.

TheHighlander

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Letters to the editor

“That spot will forever be an emptiness”

Dear Editor:

I watched a few episodes of “Canada’s Next Top Model” (or whatever it’s called) and one of the aspects that creeps me out the most is the end of the episode once one of the girls has been eliminated. The first episode starts with a montage of all the girls posed together and, as each is bid farewell, her image fades from the picture leaving the rest of them posed awkwardly around a hole. I didn’t “know” Ryan Kennedy - not enough to know that was his name - but I’ve spoken with him. I have lived in downtown Minden since February and I am religious about walking my dog a minimum of twice a day so I’ve gotten to know pretty much everybody by sight, at least. That lady works at the post office; that guy likes to spend a warm day resting with his dog on the bench; he owns the bookshop; she’s now working as a waitress; that little tyke rides the same school bus as my daughter.

It was a bright summer day under a blazing sun -

perfect for taking our daughter floating down the Gull River. We were walking along the Riverpath and had just reached the TD when my husband called out to someone he recognized from work. She was young and beautiful and walking with a cluster of young, beautiful people and I was struck by how alive and handsome and healthy they all looked in their swimwear carrying various floatable items. It was like looking at an ad for Club Med or something. One of the boys was Ryan Kennedy - it was a slap to see his face smiling from the front page next to the grim headline.

To me, he was a young, handsome blonde man in the prime of his life, glowing with good health.

Now, in my mind’s eye, there’s an awkward hole and everybody else is posed unnaturally around it.

Time will pass; players will take up new positions on the stage of Life; but that spot will forever be an unnatural emptiness that just shouldn’t be there.

Silja Hare, Minden Hills

“Stop blaming staff for the work overload”

Dear Editor:

I found your coverage of the Children’s Aid Society workers’ strike very informative and balanced.

I had chatted earlier with the placard-carrying ladies and, as your story indicates, their main concern with management is that there is a feeling that respect on the job is lacking too often. I understand from your story that luxurious purchases are routinely done over the head of the staff.

That “those monies have not been (sic) on the workers’ back,” as the Executive Director asserts, does not impress me. On whose back could they have been? Mmm... How about the taxpayers’ ?

Another cat that came out of the bag is that CAS Kawartha-Haliburton employs 32 managers to oversee 130 front line workers. Can one imagine the stress and potential lack of respect when one’s neck is breathed down on the job one-fifth of the time (if my poor math is OK)?

Here is my suggestion for the local Executive Director and Mr. McGuinty’s Ministry: turn some of those redundant managers from their top-heavy bureaucracy posts into front-line workers, with a cut in pay to replenish that of the striking ladies; involve the staff in deciding what to do with the luxury cars (what has motoring around in comfort to do with loving and protecting children?).

And, finally, stop blaming staff who “are on a holiday” for the work overload put upon their colleagues. This seems like poor management and poor human relations: vacationers want to enjoy their motor-trip not their guilt-trip.

Charles Lutz,
Haliburton

Why did Dysart turn down the events listings?

Dear Editor:

I have been reading with regret that the Dysart Council has turned down the arts council Events listing. I do not understand why a council in a very low income community would think that this would not be a benefit to all of its taxpayers. It gives the opportunity to advertise, for a very reasonable price, all of the art groups, galleries, theater groups and others.

Is it possible that there are people who live in this county who do not yet realize what a gem we have when it comes to the arts? I do not know the statistics, but I would think when a town decides to hold a large

community event on the weekend of the studio tour because of the people that we have been attracting here for the last 25 years, there must be some sort of economic advantage to everyone here.

By not allowing the artistic community to have access to inexpensive advertising you are putting a lot of people and businesses in jeopardy. It may not look that way but money is tight, advertising is expensive and if visitors and locals do not know what is happening in their community then everyone loses.

Wendy Wood, Artist, Carnarvon.

The Outsider

Blood, sweat and pedal power

By Will Jones

You’re familiar with the knights of the Round Table, King Arthur and the Crusades, I’m sure. You’ve seen the armour: head to toe tin can, chain mail underpants, the works. Well, personal protective clothing of anything much less than this is virtual suicide when riding a bicycle in London, England.

Car drivers in London are a mightily aggressive breed. They are always late, even when they’re early and the thought of extending a little courtesy to the guy in the other car, never mind the nervy cyclist, is viewed with suspicion or downright derision. Let someone into the queue in front of you and you’re liable to feel the wrath of at least four of the drivers in the line behind you. Horns blare, fists shake, expletives are mouthed (well, shouted actually; it’s just you’re cocooned inside one of those little tin boxes that we Brits call a car). Unless your skin is thicker than the average elephant’s you feel well and truly told off.

The thing is you can’t blame most of the drivers. They are stuck in a slow motion world where the roads are so clogged with traffic that the average speed of a car in London is 4mph. Yep you read that right, four miles per hour, about as fast as walking. I think we’d all be a little crabby if a ride down the 21 to Minden was conducted at that speed.

But, be they crabby, annoyed or completely incensed by the state of the traffic on the roads, they should be a little bit more courteous towards the brave (read crazy) souls who venture out on pedal-powered transport. The trouble

is, car drivers see cyclists as a pesky aggravation put on this earth to make their miserable journey to work even more annoying. They will cut cyclists up, pull out in front of them or force them into a ditch, as quickly as you’d swat a fly that landed on your pizza (tip here: wait till the fly’s landed elsewhere before swatting, unless you like the taste of bluebottle on your spicy Hawaiian).

And then there’s the city pollution. Exhaust fumes taste only a degree or two better than flies in my mind and swallowing lungs full of carbon monoxide as I pedalled and panted frantically around London was not my idea of a hearty meal. As a consequence, I rarely donned my suit of armour and duelled with the traffic in London. But Haliburton County, well that’s a completely different place, isn’t it?

Less traffic, friendlier folks, only the odd snack of carbon monoxide to ingest, and, once the hoards of ravenous insects have had their fill for the summer, tis a cyclist’s dream no less. Or so you’d think so.

Just a few weeks back I ventured out on my new bike for the first time. Bouncing down my gravelly side track and out onto Gelert Road, I went.

BEEEEPPPP!!!! ROOWWWWRRRRRRRR!!!! BEEP! BEEP! ROOWWWWRRRRRRRR!!!!

Spluttering, I picked chunks of grit out of my eyes and spat a mouthful of dust on the ground. Little Z looked up at me from his seat affixed to my crossbar and said: “fast car, Daddy, did go beep beep.”

“No freekin’ kidding,” I intoned under my breath. As the dust settled we rode on down the highway, diving into the ditch only twice to save ourselves from old guys

in huge pickups. Old guys who had obviously seen us because they pressed hard and long on their industrial strength horns as they swung inwards to push us onto the shoulder.

Little Z took it in his stride – the dust, detours onto rough ground, a couple of mouthfuls of grass – but by the time I returned home I was ready to reach for the Sears catalogue to see if they sold suits of armour.

We’ve been out a few times since and our experiences have ranged wildly: from wonderful rides when deer gambol across the highway, yards from us, birds flutter down to hitch a ride on my handlebars and squirrels look up from their feverish nut collecting to wave a cheery hello; to tarmac chewing, fist waving, horn blaring nightmares when I’ve fretted for my life. Haliburton County you are full of surprises (and crazy old coots with a wicked sense of humour in big trucks).

By the way, it turns out Sears doesn’t sell armour and besides why should I go on the defensive. I took it to the next level: my bike now has two brackets on the handlebars, one for little Z’s horn and one for my AK47. Don’t mess with this cyclist or I’ll pop you in the tailpipe!



Algonquin highlands

Ward 3 candidates speak out

Bob Buckingham wants to add some talent

By Jerry Grozelle

What he calls a lack of transparency on the part of the previous council is on the list of reasons why Bob Buckingham decided to run in the by-election for the vacant seat on Algonquin Highlands council.

"We're headed for some troubled times," Buckingham said. "The economy is looking pretty bad."

Buckingham's cottage is on a private road off the Bear Lake Road. "There's eight of us that maintain that road and all of us pretty well dream of retiring up there," he said.

"With the MPAC way of doing things, waterfront property taxes have gone through the roof and there's many people that didn't have that in their retirement plans."

There are a number of issues Buckingham said he would like to see addressed. "Things like the Stanhope Airport... I still don't fully understand how it got started," he said. "I take a look at how the Middleton family was treated. [They were] offered \$200,000 for a piece of property that was worth \$550,000, that ultimately cost the taxpayers, because we're ultimately the township, over a million dollars -- is just crazy. That's not the way you'd run a business. That's not the way you should run a township -- not to mention, that's not the way you should treat people. To me, it's just egregious. Take a look at the Dorset Fire Department -- we had a mass exodus -- it is signaling that there's a huge disconnect between the township and the taxpayer."

"Having said that, I don't want to leave you with the impression that the current council is cut from the same stone, because I don't believe that's the case. Everything that I've asked of Reeve Carol Moffatt she's given me -- all the answers I've needed, or pointed me in the right direction." He said the current council seems quite open and "genuinely happy and interested in what they're doing."



John Salvagna says economic development is lacking in Ward 3

John Salvagna's motivation to run for Algonquin Highlands council's Ward 3 is his perception that nothing is being done for his ward. He also believes there have been some council dealings in the past that weren't completely above board.

"There's been absolutely nothing done for the people with their money, other than a monstrous waste on this airport," he said. "There's a private airport in our Ward right now that's functional for big planes."

"The township has never even looked at renting space [at this airport] if needed," he said. "Having an airport when you don't even have roads for your constituents... lets worry about the people who are on the ground before we worry about the people in the air. That's my theory on the whole thing."

"At this stage in the development of our municipality, an airport is just craziness. It's just insane to be developing what we have into something bigger that's not needed when there's so many other services that are needed."

Salvagna said he would rather see money spent on roads and community development.

"Development's being done just down the highway to accommodate all the tourism that is being brought in by Algonquin Park and nothing is being done out here to get any of that income that's so desperately needed in this area. The government just spent how many millions of dollars on Highway 60 and its all brand new right through the park now and we don't have one new business being developed. That's unacceptable to me."

"The municipal government is supposed to look after the municipality and I haven't seen that being done since I've lived up here. I come from down in North Durham where it's all small farm communities. Community leaders and councilors get together and resolve issues and the place is growing. New businesses are thriving and this area is just dying. The loggers come through and the exploratory drillers come through, but nobody's staying."

Salvagna has been a resident of the Dwight area for 10 years, but he says he's been coming up here since he was barely able to walk. "I've been camping and canoeing in the park all my life," he said.

Colin Smith wants to encourage new businesses

Englishman Colin Smith was vacationing in Haliburton County when he decided he wanted to live here. So six years ago he bought the Parkway Resort and Trading Post on Oxtongue Lake and moved here with his family.

Smith is one of five candidates vying for the vacant Ward 3 seat on Algonquin Highlands council. He says that since he moved here, he's seen things going downhill. "Especially this particular area," he said. "We've got quite a few vacant lots up here and derelict sites. It's not very nice when you come into Algonquin Highlands from Algonquin Park and the first thing you see is a derelict and it doesn't get any better as you go through either."

Smith said the only way he could see to change things is to get on council and change it himself. He said he believes council members have some type of personal axe to grind. "My only axe is Algonquin Highlands," he said.

Regarding local issues, Smith said: "The bomb that's going to hit us worst up here, I think, is the economy. You've got the feds and the province trying to balance their books and the only place they can get their money is through us. Obviously, we're going to get stung for it. The hydro bill has already gone up. Inflation went up 3.2 per cent, it was on the news today. I sat in on a council meeting and they are already getting a bit twitchy about next year's budget."

Smith said he's already learned a few things from council's debates, such as where the taxpayers' money is spent. He cited the debate over the salary of a custodian for the Oxtongue Community Centre. He said it wasn't a lot of money, and they deferred a decision pending budget deliberations. To him, that indicated that council is looking carefully at its budget. He also noted that the municipality has expenses that he didn't realize came out of the budget. "They're demolishing a cottage on a lake somewhere and they got three quotes," he said. "That's got to be paid out to knock somebody else's property down."

One of the things Smith would work toward if elected is to try to encourage new businesses to come to Algonquin Highlands. "One of the ways I was thinking of was to offer local tax breaks to [business] start-ups. It wouldn't cost anything. I think we've got to start thinking outside the box."

Smith said the possibility of the MNR fire centre moving to the Stanhope Airport "would be quite an interesting turn-around. Instead of the airport costing money, it would actually be paying the community back at last." He said one of the things he disagrees with, in regard to the airport is, "the community paying for a recreational facility for very few people."

Smith's career background saw him start with a brewing company in England 30-plus years ago.



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Algonquin highlands



As a full-time resident, Marlene
Kyle says she's available

By Jerry Grozelle

As an active community supporter, Marlene Kyle says she believes working on Algonquin Highlands council would give her an opportunity to expand her community work and apply her business skills to compliment those of the rest of council.

"We had a very good councillor for our area because he lived in our ward," she said. "When he left, I was approached by several well-respected community members and asked if I would consider trying to take on this role."

Kyle and her husband own and operate Algonquin Clean Water Services. “We are a drinking water treatment company,” Kyle said. The company was incorporated in 2004. She and her husband are members of the Oxtongue Lake Business Association.

Kyle said she knows there is a lot of work involved in representing the ratepayers of Ward 3, but she is prepared to face the challenges. "I've certainly been out doing my homework, trying to get a handle on what the key issues are and even some of the fundamental issues," she said.

"I spent 25 years in the automotive industry," Kyle said. Her experience includes customer service, project management, financial management, project implementation and budgeting. "I was a senior business manager for an automotive company.

“My husband and I have our own business here in the community,” she said. “It is moving along nice and smoothly now and it’s time to expand my role in the community.”

"I've been doing community work ever since we bought our property in '97," she said. "I served a term as the secretary and newsletter editor for the Oxtongue Lake Ratepayers' Association. I have picked up garbage along Highway 60 with the fire department. I've set up and judged at the regattas. I've organized milestone events for community members. I was the MC at the retirement party for the fire chief here in August, and I'm the primary fund-raiser for the Algonquin Snowmobile Club." She also participated in the development of the Oxtongue Lake History book.

Kyle says she has never been one to turn down an opportunity to learn new skills. She has been educated by some of the automotive industry's top men and women.

The airport is among the issues Kyle considers important. "Everybody is always very concerned about the airport," she said. "There's a lot of money sitting on the table there that needs to be reviewed."

“The McClintock lagoon is another issue and, of course, the landfills. These are very basic functions, the landfills and the lagoon, that we have to have in our community. We have to deal with it. It’s a very costly issue as well.”

In addition to her business experience, Kyle said she has a lot of energy to devote to the position of Ward 3 councillor. “I’m very organized and I’m very committed,” she said. “I think a key thing is that I’m a year-round resident, so I’m available to go to council meetings, to go to committee meetings, to meet with the public. I’m not structured by whether I’m a seasonal person or whether I’m in town working. I’m here. I’m in Ward 3.”

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Arts page

State of the Arts

by Victoria Ward

I am a believer in the small affecting the big. It was after all just one man, Mohamid Bouazizi, the Tunisian fruit vendor, who set himself on fire only to have a political movement (the Arab spring, Occupy Wall Street, rumblings in Uganda) ricochet around the world and perhaps change our lives forever.

Art, like politics, involves writing and analysis and there are many ways to write about the arts. What I think I can add to this already diverse field is to examine the wider ideas and their specific impact on our life here in blessed but small Haliburton County - and vice versa.

Living here in rural splendor can make the world a more palpable place. The balance for me has always been to allow the wilderness to inspire, reassure, and become a great place for research while keeping an eye on the greater world at large. The point is to take what I invent here in my forested 'lab' and send it out into the world, hopefully not as a monster but if it sometimes has to be a monster so be it. The Frankenstein analogy isn't just for topical means; a great many artists can sympathize with the drive to make something 'come to life' and that can only be fully realized when what you have created interacts, lurching to and fro, scaring and sympathizing, with

other people. And hopefully our work, indeed ourselves, won't be exiled to the Arctic for doing so.

The inverse of this also works. The world sometimes comes here. They come out from their graves of urban fatigue, stumbling towards our art and ideas, hungry for anything that has a pulse, a sign of sweet natural life. As they stagger, searching for un-hipster brains... okay, I don't think I can make the zombie analogy work, but I did want to give it a try. People come here or read and hear about us cozy Haliburton folks with our woodstoves and lakes we can actually swim in and they wonder what else we have to offer. As it so happens, we have an enormous attraction that does appeal to the world: art. I see a connection and hope that this column can endow it with more fuel, more proof and more examples that someone who came from the dark and sexy art world of Toronto can thrive and be happy in the wild.

Currently there is an art exhibition in London, England that is drawing much interest and large crowds. It is the Group of Seven. Presented by the Dulwich Picture Gallery and, as the front page of their website reads, the show is apparently "a rare opportunity to trace the development and scope of this undervalued movement". Symposiums, national press, reviews by astute critics

and writers are mounting in our Commonwealth partner. It's a hit. Now this wouldn't be news to most art lovers over here. We have always known that these wilderness-loving backpackers were wonderful painters. In fact most artists I know can't bring themselves to mention the 'group' due to the supposed oppressively long shadow they cast on our culture. I think however it is wonderful that these painters, and through them our wilderness, is being discussed as serious subject matter by the British art press (and soon writers on the continent as the exhibition moves to Europe). It might have taken 80 or so years, but frankly the group lived in a time when Toronto was the size of Lindsay and the trek to Lake Superior would have seemed like an exile in the Arctic. It was a small movement that now has a world stage.

Yes, we artists want the world. But having it or reaching it can be very troublesome. Being here, in a place where things are a little slower, where life is just a little simpler or at the very least less complicated by oodles of other people; being isolated I guess, can actually be a help and not a hindrance. And if it is a hindrance, what do we do about it? This is what I hope to cover week by week in this 'state of the arts'.



Victoria Ward is a local professional artist who has worked in the arts for over 20 years. Her focus is painting, new media, writing and performance. Her latest project is 'a little red' that incorporates text and visuals online and in a gallery setting. You can view her work and read more about Victoria on the sites: hotspurstudio.com and alittlered.ca.

Fred Heads should never be confused with Dead Heads

By Terrance Gavan

Jerry Garcia had his Dead Heads.

And the Grateful Dead front man loved his Dead Heads. They followed that seminal band all over the world, beer-gutted, bandana-draped biker look-alikes with a hard-driven penchant for Garcia's staunch licks and the Dead's seminal presence amongst the pantheon of rock n' roll legends.

Fred Heads follow another legend – a less well-known song writer and singer – Fred Eaglesmith around the province and the country. They're not fat, they prefer beer to funny cigarettes and they take their job a little less seriously than the Dead Heads.

But make no mistake. They are just as devoted to their man.

And they showed up knee deep to watch their favorite churner of prose, poesy and song last Thursday evening at McKecks Blue Line.

"Da' Place," as they say, "was jammed to the rafters and noisy as a cat in heat."

You do not have to be a Fred Head to enjoy Ontario's favoured son. Eaglesmith has

been on the road for 30 years give or take, and he freely admits that he's not on a fast track to Billboard's top 20.

Of course he has enjoyed a measure of vicarious success via some lovely tunes covered by a variety of pop country performers.

Listen to Fred as he tells us about how his song *Freight Train* popped to the top of the charts courtesy of popular country and western legend, Alan Jackson.

"Alan Jackson recorded my song *Freight Train*," croaks Eaglesmith with that familiar sandpaper growl which is the lingering detritus of too many small towns, smoky taverns and late nights. "The album was called *Freight Train*; the tour was called *Freight Train*; the bus said *Freight Train*; the shirt said *Freight Train*; the single said *Hard Hat and a Hammer*. And that's why I'm still driving that old truck outside."

Self-deprecating, funny with a band that wowed that wild crowd at McKecks.

Fred Eaglesmith is one of a kind. Kudos to Karen Frybort at McKecks for hijacking him for the night.



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Senior highlanders

Aging Well

by Penny Brown

Dear Penny,

I know it's a common problem, but my back aches a lot around the belt level and lower. It's not a sharp pain but more like a soreness that is worst in the morning and sometimes bad at night too. I don't like to take pills because I already take too many. Is there anything you can suggest that might help?

Achy Annie

Dear Achy Annie,

Low back discomfort is common, especially as we age. I want to make it clear that I am talking about the normal kinds of aches and pains we all experience at one time or another.

If, however, you are suffering from severe back pain, either constant or intermittent, that definitely calls for the attention of a qualified physician. If you are at all concerned, do check with your doctor before trying the exercises I am suggesting here.

If you get the usual *I'm-tired-and-my-back-hurts aches*, then a few good exercises will serve you well. They will help strengthen the small muscles around the spine and thus reduce strain by increasing support to your back.

Be sure to do the *Pelvic Tilt* exercise and at least two of the three exercises below. Begin by doing these exercises five times each and every day, holding the contraction for a count of five, or less if that's all you can do comfortably.

As it begins to get easier over the weeks, progress by increasing the number of times you do the exercise until you reach twenty-five, then increase the length of the holding.

All of these exercises are best done on the floor, but if getting up and down is a problem for you, do them on the bed. And again, if these exercises make the pain worse or cause other pains, stop them and see your doctor before attempting further exercise.

PELVIC TILT

Lying on your back, with your knees bent so that your feet are flat on the floor or bed, slip your hand under the small of your back. You will feel a slight hollow. Now press your back down onto your hand—that is, flatten your back. Remove your hand and press down again. Hold and count. Let go, then repeat.



KNEE REACH

Lie on your back with your knees bent and your feet flat on the floor or bed. With both hands, reach out to touch your knees and try to sit part way up. *Do not strain and do not sit all the way up.* Lift only your head and shoulders, keeping your chin tucked in and tightening your tummy muscles. Lower yourself slowly. Repeat.

KNEES TO CHEST

This one might be too difficult if you're just starting out, so add it to your routine later if necessary. Lie on your back with your knees bent and your feet flat on the floor or bed. Keep your hands at your sides, palms down, and use them only for support. Tighten your tummy muscles and slowly pull your knees up to your chest. Lower slowly to starting position. Repeat. *If you find this exercise is hard to do and you feel a pull on your lower back muscles, don't do it.*

HUMPING AND HOLLOWING

You may know this one as *cat and camel*. Position yourself on your hands and knees, with your hands directly under your shoulders and your knees directly under your hips. For Part 1 of the exercise, tighten your tummy muscles, tuck your head down, and slowly hump your back—like a cat. Hold it. For Part 2, slowly relax your back, letting it sink down until it is arched. Look upwards as you do the second part of the exercise and point your rear end up. Repeat both parts several times.

Readers, if you have any other questions—about your mobility, your comfort, or just about getting through your day more safely and easily—I want to hear them. For real-life answers you can use, write to letters@haliburtonhighlander.ca.

HCDC approves funding for The Highlander

Last week, The Highlander received notice from the Haliburton County Development Corporation that its application for start-up funding had been approved. HCDC's assistance will ensure The Highlander has sufficient resources

to bridge the normally slow winter advertising season.

The Highlander wishes to thank Andy Campbell and HCDC for their support.

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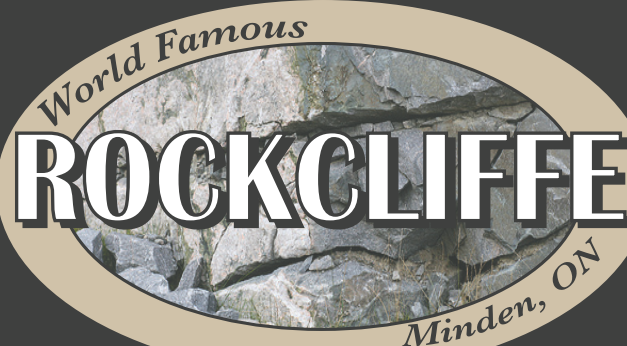
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Around the county



MNR biologist David Flowers with an 8lb female lake trout /Photo Will Jones

Prospecting for gold with the HHOA

By Will Jones

It was a cold, windy night. The rain lashed the lake and all but a few hardy souls were tucked up warm in their homes. Through the dark came a boat; the shout: "We've got them. We struck gold!"

"Gold!" I hear you say. "Where is this bounty?"

Before I start a rush for picks and shovels, I should explain that this gold was the Haliburton Gold lake trout and members of the MNR and Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association (HHOA) volunteers were braving the elements to collect eggs from this most precious of local fish species.

Setting up base camp at the public beach on Halls Lake, HHOA fish hatchery committee chairman, Rex Henry, explained our goal: "We aim to net some trout, collect 5000 to 7000 eggs and fertilise them here tonight. Then, they'll be transported back to the fish hatchery and nurtured for a year and a half, until we have about 5000 young lake trout ready for release back into local lakes."

Sounds simple, doesn't it? Tell that to MNR biologist David Flowers, his two colleagues and volunteers Ryan Hill and Jim Fox, who cruised out into the choppy waters of Halls Lake to cast their nets as the last light of day faded.

Two hours later, the light of the boat was spotted in the blustery blackness and the land-based volunteers sprang into action. At Flowers's direction, fish were netted from the live well and brought up the beach to the milking table. Females first were relieved of their eggs; then males had their sperm taken. The resulting concoction was gently mixed and poured into a holding pail.

The HHOA started egg collecting in collaboration with the MNR in 1998, and by 2000 it had built its own fish hatchery at premises on County Road One. Since then, a dedicated band of volunteers has collected many thousands of eggs and raised four different subspecies of lake trout, as well as walleye and rainbow trout (the rainbows are purchased as fingerlings and grown on in the hatchery's outdoor ponds).

"Early on in the association's life we realised that angling was an important tourist draw but that fishing pressure was

depleting the stocks of fish in our lakes," said Henry. "Since then, it has been our primary goal to restock the lakes and to do that with fish indigenous to the area."

"The Haliburton Gold lake trout are harvested from lakes with healthy populations – predominantly Halls Lake and Redstone – and the young trout are stocked into lakes where lake trout are becoming scarce."

The first netting of the night brought in around 40 fish, the males outnumbering females by three to one. Most fish were between one and a half and three pounds, the females being larger, but one monster was netted, a big old lady of eight pounds, much to the delight of the fishermen in the party.

"This first net was a really good one," said Flowers, "but we need more eggs to hit our target so we'll go out again." Two hours later he was to announce a third trip out into the pitch black of Halls Lake but spirits were high: the fish were there, the eggs looked healthy, and morale was good thanks to Art Theberge's RV, strong coffee and comical yarns told by Charlie Davis and Jack Jackson.

"This is a fun night," smiled Henry, "but it is the start of 18 months of hard work to ensure we have a high number of fish put back into the lakes. These eggs will be sorted and any dead or diseased ones picked out. Then, a team of 40 volunteers will monitor them until they hatch and then feed and clean them as they grow, moving them gradually into ever larger tanks to ensure they have the room and clean water to grow strong and healthy."

After the boat had returned for the final time, Flowers oversaw the egg count. Volunteers held their breath as the egg and sperm mixture was poured into a measuring tube. "Over a litre, that looks good," said Flowers. "Get the Von Bayer board and we'll have a count." Newcomers, like myself, gasped but as it turned out a sample of eggs was taken and from that a total extrapolated. Following three such counts, a mean amount was calculated and, with a smile, Flowers announced: "Just about 7000, we can call it a night."

Windswept and wet, the volunteers made their way home, safe in the knowledge that we had struck Haliburton Gold.



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Sports news

Red Hawk girls claim COSSA crown

Next stop? OFSAA tourney Nov 3-5 in Markham

By Terrance Gavan

What's the recipe for a trip to the Ontario provincial field hockey championships?

We asked the chef, senior varsity field hockey coach Caley Sisson.

She asked for just a wee bit of time to ponder that question while assembling her jubilant players on the pitch at Hal High yesterday afternoon.

Sisson was hardly in the mood for a cognitive redux of coaching 101 shortly after a solid dismantling of the visiting Crestwood High Mustangs in the COSSA finals on Thursday (Oct 27).

Hawks won 3-0 and controlled the tempo, tune, flow and vibe of the game from start to finish. Mackenzie Hill, Brigitta Hicks and Charlene Hicks scored in the final game.

The Hawks beat St Peters 2-0 in the semi final and Crestwood nudged Bancroft's North Hastings to advance to the final. Crestwood's victory came only after overtime and it was decided on penalty flicks.

Sandy Griffith and Laura Pottier scored the Red Hawk goals in that semi final.

Jen Woolacott notched twin shutouts. Nothing special here. Woolacott, believe it or not, went through the 2010 and 2011 season without allowing a single regulation time goal.

And that is absolutely amazing. Woolacott, of course, will be the first one to tell you that her success rests squarely on the shoulders of the players in front of her.

But yesterday? The backstop earned her due.

In the final game, with her shutout record on the line, she faced a penalty shot after a foul in the zone.

Woolacott stood her ground and guessed right, sustaining that shutout string which now comprises the regular season plus Kawartha and COSSA zones.

Some smiles light up a room. Woolacott's Cheshire grin lit up Gary Brohman Field in the gathering darkness. This season could not be dissected without crediting the ground-in grit of the Hawks prepossessing defensive presence.

The Hawks, as they have been doing all season, controlled both games with singular aplomb. An utterly fantastic display by a group of dedicated young women. And Sisson was effusive in her praise of her charges.

"I think it's great. It feels fantastic," said Sisson, when she finally found some time to reflect, 15 minutes after the game. "It takes a lot of hard work, dedication and a lot of time and I could not ask for a better group of



Grace Diezel advances the ball against a Crestwood defender, Thursday at Hal High. /Photo Terrance Gavan.

athletes that are willing to dedicate their time to the sport, and to the program."

Sisson looked back at the girls still passing around the trophy and kissing their gold medals.

"The girls have definitely made this program what it is today," she added. "Through their hard work and determination they accomplished this."

And fittingly, five members of the junior varsity managed to contribute to the mix on Thursday.

Coach Steve Smith's JVs closed out their season with their fourth straight Kawartha title. "We just keep

churning them out and feeding them into the system," laughed Smith, while shaking hands with the senior vees.

"The juniors adjusted really well and they did a wonderful job," said Sisson. "I was happy to have them here with us."

Meanwhile the graduating seniors Grace Diezel, Vicki Bukta, Lily Coneybeare and Woolacott will close out their careers with that coveted trip to the Ontarios.

The Hawks travel to Markham next week on Nov. 3-5 for the all-Ontario OFSAA field hockey championships.

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Sports opinion

The embarrassing 'coach' Rob Ford

PardontheEruption

By Terrance Gavan

What the heck is wrong with Toronto Mayor and erstwhile gridiron coach Rob Ford?

I mean aside from rampant homophobia, an assumed zealous penchant for fried foods and an almost manic and obsessive fear of liberals, tree huggers and poor people.

Rob Ford is the Mayor of the largest city in Canada and he ran a campaign that embraced big business, small-c conservatism and autocratic top down fiscal responsibility. How's that been working coach?

Now news seeps to the top of that lingering pile of puss formerly known as City Hall that Ford ran away from Marg Delahunty – Newfoundland's physically unimposing Warrior Princess.

Yes Mayor Ford was ambling out to his car the other day when a *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* news crew with Mary Walsh – aka Delahunty - in the lead charged out to confront him.

Coach Ford backed away from the marauding television crew and quickly shooed his daughter back into the house.

Where he promptly called 911. Yes. 911. The emergency number reserved for drowning infants, apartment fires, car accidents, heart failure, strokes, drownings and gunshot wounds.

That 911.

The 250 pound football coach stood in his house, peering out the window at a CBC television and dialed 911. Because he says he didn't recognize Mary Walsh.

Really? Coach Ford. That's what ya' got? That's what you're telling your constituents? Mary Walsh looked armed and dangerous? And she chased me into the house?

I have met well over 100 football coaches from all levels on my scribbling travels from Halifax to BC. I'm pretty sure they're all bloody embarrassed. That a Canadian football coach decided to rain fulsome shame on a noble profession.

Shame on you Coach Ford. If I was a player on your high school squad? I'd be knocking on the principal's door and demanding that you be relieved of your duties immediately. For "conduct unbecoming."

In fact, I phoned a high school coach I know from Halcyon, Manitoba, where they still play nine-man football.

Coach Leo "Crazy-Legs" Loonesbury is only 5'9" and pops the scales at a whopping 148 pounds. That's the same weight he played at while toiling as a wide receiver and kick returner at the University of Manitoba back in 1968. He's in the Bison Football Hall of Fame and spent two years with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

You go into a biker bar at two in the morning and you got one choice for a wing man?

You choose "Crazy Legs" Loonesbury every time. He's 63 or 64 now and he still benches 220.

I called him up on Tuesday shortly after the Ford fluff started filtering through the Globe and the Star.

"Crazy Legs how's the team doing?" I asked.

"We won the provincial nine-man again this year," said Legs. "Ah, I got a great group of kids here in Halcyon."

"What's your take on this Mayor Ford dealio Legs?" I asked.

"Can I say milquetoast in your paper?" asked Legs.

"Well, Leo, I just heard what Mayor Ford called the 911 operators and I think that as epithets go? Milquetoast is rather tame in comparison," I chuckled.

"I heard he swore at the 911 woman, used the b-word and then said, 'Don't you f---ing know who I am? I'm f---ing Rob Ford, mayor of the city!' Is that right?" asked the old coach.

"Something like that," I said. "And thanks for that quote because I was wondering how I was going to work it into the column."

"Well you want my opinion," said Crazy Legs. "And all

I'm sayin' is what every coach in Canada is thinking. Rob Ford is a French fried chicken."

"And he's a waddling embarrassment to the coaching fraternity. Heck I know 50 coaches who'd all love to meet Marg Delahunty."

"Thanks coach," I said.

"Tell Ford to get on the bike," said Crazy Legs.

That's why I love Crazy Legs Loonesbury. No crap. Unlike this other guy.

For the record Coach Ford said, "I didn't know who they were and obviously we've had death threats. There was a camera and a mike."

"My kids and my wife are the closest things to me and I'll do anything to protect them."

Okay Marg Delahunty. Time to step up to the dais.

Shame on you for being such an imposing Newfoundlander.

Now this all leads to the more interesting question. What in heck is Coach Rob Ford going to do on Halloween?

Hello 911? This is Mayor Rob Ford. Send SWAT stat. There are four f---ing zombies and a GD vampire at my door."

Awww. Boo!

The weather

Friday

high 4° low -5° &
variable cloudiness



Saturday

high 6° low -5° &
variable cloudiness



Sunday

high 7° low -2° &
cloudy with showers



Monday

high 6° low -1° &
cloudy with showers



Tuesday

high 8° low -3° &
cloudy with showers



Wednesday

high 9° low 4° &
light rain



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Sports news

Storm 'A' victors at Kinsmen

By Highlander Contributor

It was an exciting weekend of hockey! The Highland Storm Peeewe AE team traveled to compete in a one-day tournament in Campbellford.

Luckily for the Storm team, their first game was at 11:00 am against the Ennismore Eagles. The teams were closely matched and after losing Mitch Billings to a suspension during the early minutes of the first period, who knew what else lay ahead. It was a tight game being tied at 1-1 until early in the third period when the Storm took the lead. The one-goal lead resulted in a third period nail biter, with the last minutes totally intense hockey.

The Eagles pulled their goalie with seconds remaining, hitting the cross bar but it wasn't enough, the game ended with the Storm winning 2-1. The first goal was unassisted by Matt Manning and the other was scored by Alec Stoughton assisted by Alex Petrie and Ben Schmidt. A "pat on the back" to the entire team for contributing to this big win.

Following that successful start, the Storm's confidence was built for the next game. They came out flying, connecting as a team and displaying awesome individual strengths. This all-round effort led to a 4-1 win. Jon Morrison aggressively found the top right corner and scored two of the goals. The other goal scorers were Ben Schmidt and Carter O'Neill. The assists came from Ryan Prentice, Alec Stoughton, Carter O'Neill, Matt Manning, Jesse Sisson and Alex Wilbee.

The final game proved best for the Storm Peeewe AE team, a strong game that displayed both offensive and defensive skill in the game of hockey. It was a well-deserved final "A" shut-out 5-0 win for the Storm team. They took the lead in the first period by goals scored by Matt Manning and Jon Morrison, both unassisted. The second period Alex Wilbee found the net with his rocket shot, assisted by Carter O'Neill and Jon Morrison. Alec Stoughton's effort contributed to a goal assisted by Aidan Garbutt and another by Jon Morrison with the help of Jesse Sisson. The well-earned shut out and his solidity throughout the tournament earned goalie Josh Bellefleur the MVP. The Peeewe AE team came together both on and off the ice and celebrated the "fun" of hockey.

Thanks to the coaches, trainers and manager Bob Schmidt, Jon Petrie, Tom Prentice, Jason Stoughton and Dana Manning for all of their contributions, but most of all, thanks to the boys of the Peeewe AE team for making it all worth-while.

The Highland Storm Peeewe AE team is proudly sponsored by Tom Prentice Trucking.



Back Row: Jacob Haedicke, Alex Petrie, Mitch Billings, Ryan Prentice, Alex Wilbee, Jon Morrison, Trevor Turner
Front row: Aidan Garbutt, Ben Schmidt, Alec Stoughton, Carter O'Neill, Matt Manning, Jesse Sisson and Josh Bellefleur

Two Kawartha Championships for field hockey Hawks

By Terrance Gavan

Don't believe the movie plots. When planets collide... good things happen.

Two stars in Hal High's firmament collided with destiny this week and the universe is intact.

Both junior and senior varsity field hockey teams asserted their season long Charles Sheen-sian penchant for "winning, winning, winning" this week with twin Kawartha League championships.

The junior varsity squad won their fourth straight Kawartha crown here in Haliburton on Monday afternoon with a squeaking 1-0 victory over Crestwood in the finals.

Jacky Davis scored the lone goal in the championship final.

The varsity Bees buzzed to a 6-0 win over St. Peter's in the semi final. Connor Marsden scored three goals while Julia Fedeski, Alisha Bishop and Dakotah Francis popped singles.

"We worked hard to improve all

season," said coach Steve Smith. "The girls played well and finished hard. That hard work and dedication really paid off in the final."

"I'm back next year and hopefully we can just keep on building on what we've been doing."

Earlier in the year, after a dominating 10-0 win, I remember Smith saying how proud he was of his whole team. Back then he said, "our goal is to win our fourth championship."

No brag, just fact. That's the way they roll in field hockey at Hal High.

Smith and the Varsity 'Bees' deserve huge kudos for their hard work and accomplishments.

And gosh darn, ain't it a shame that there's no COSSA finals for the young squad.

We're pretty sure that the whole JV team will be on the sidelines on Thursday watching the A-Team vie for COSSA supremacy at home.

Caley Sisson's senior varsity girls won the Kawartha Girls Varsity

Field Hockey Championships in Peterborough, defeating Crestwood 2-0 in the final. Sandy Griffith and Mackenzie Hill popped a goal apiece for Haliburton.

Earlier in the day the hellzapoppin' Hawks - undefeated on the season (with one tie) - posted a 4-0 win against host St. Peter's.

Sandy Griffiths scored twice and Grace Diezel and Laura Pottier notched a goal apiece in the semi. Crestwood defeated Holy Cross 2-0 in the other semi-final.

Haliburton, Crestwood and St. Peter's all advanced to the COSSA Championships hosted here in Haliburton yesterday. North Hastings represented the Bancroft region at the four-team COSSA tournament.

The COSSA champion will advance to OFSAA slated for Nov. 3-5 in Markham. The seeding for the COSSA tournament, final four format, are as follows: 1. Haliburton 2. North Hastings 3. Crestwood 4. St. Peter's.

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Events page

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Minden Community Centre

Saturday November 26
10am – 4pm

Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre,
Wilberforce

Wednesday November 16
3pm – 7pm

Project Aria fully in touch with their audience

By Terrance Gavan

*Project Aria – Haliburton Concert Series
Northern Lights Pavilion of the Performing Arts
Saturday, Oct 15 – call 705-457-2695 for time and
tickets.*

Four hands, one piano, a horn, a voice without ambivalence, and three superbly trained artists.

Put them all together and the spun stew is enough to feed a musical soul.

It's also the basis for a pretty stunning night out at the Northern Lights Pavilion in Haliburton.

Veni, Vidi, Vici. Project Aria came. They were seen. They conquered.

Project Aria is a trio featuring Guy Few on piano and trumpet, Leslie Fagan, a coloratura soprano with Carnegie Hall appearances to her credit, and Stephanie Mara who twinkles some ivory. Mara is actually a very respected collaborative musician who displayed some rare talent, especially during her four handed duos with Few.

The guy brandishing the trumpet kept things real between songs, bringing an irrepressible and obvious joy to his work.

Few popped on stage with Mara and Fagan and said "Hi!"

All three artists were visibly impressed when the packed house shouted "Hi" right back.

"Hah," said Few. "That's great. We don't get that very often."

Project Aria was, in a word, stunning. Choosing from a selection of JS Bach and some kid named Mozart, they commanded the stage in the first half of the concert with voice, and horn and ivory.

They started the second act with a beautiful selection *The Promised Land* from composer John Greer. *The Promised Land* was a commissioned work undertaken by Few for Settlement House, a worthy project uniting people from different backgrounds in a cooperative living milieu.

Project Aria was the last concert for this year's Haliburton Concert Series.

Their encore?

A little known piece from Freddy Handel, who rubbed a few stuck butts the wrong way when he wrote a little ditty called *Messiah*.

Well according to Few, Handel also penned a little number called *Old Mother Hubbard* and they saved that piece for their encore after closing the concert with Handel's *Let the Bright Seraphim* to a well-deserved standing ovation.

You know how it goes. It's a tear jerker. "Old Mother Hubbard; Went to the cupboard; to give the poor dog a bone; when she came there; The cupboard was bare, so the dog picked up his blanket and left... yada yada yada." Had Few literally pushing back tears as Mara sang to those Handel strains.

Call this 2011 season another rollicking success.

The Haliburton Concert Series with clockwork precision has already compiled its list of concerts for next year.

The first concert is set for Sunday, May 15 and will feature an encore performance from the absolutely delightful pianist, Lucille Chung.

Highlands Little Theatre and the HHSS Drama Department presents

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by Alan Ayckborn
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Superhero Sanitarium

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HIFFive

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7:00 pm Beginners: An audience favourite at the 2010 TIFF®, a moving and often hilarious portrait of family, love, loss, and self-discovery. USA 105 minutes

9:15 pm In A Better World: 2011 Foreign language Oscar winner, a thought-provoking, powerfully acted exploration of rough justice in the modern world - is it better to turn the other cheek or stand up for yourself and others? Denmark/Sweden, 119 minutes, subtitles

Saturday November 5

10:00 am The First Grader: "Why does someone as old as you want to go to school?" The remarkable true and uplifting story of a man who is determined to seize his last chance to learn to read and write - and joins a class alongside six year-olds. Kenya/USA/UK, 103 minutes

1:00 pm Jane Eyre: A chaste, yet inescapably sexy love story told with depth and passion. UK/USA (120 min)

3:30 pm My Afternoons with Marguerite: the story of life's random encounters, Gisele Casadesus (Marguerite) - at 97, a French national treasure, tenderly manages to make great literature sound like conversation, and vice versa. France, 82 minutes, subtitles

7:00 pm The Trip: Two British comics on a fine-dining tour in a side-splitting, casually brilliant guy flick. UK, 107 minutes

9:00 pm McKeck's - The Blue Line HIFF Gala

Sunday November 6

10:30 am The Illusionist/L'illusionniste: This is a remarkable movie - a delightful piece of old-fashioned hand-drawn animation where character is in body language and personality in the "performance." UK/France, 80 minutes

1:00 pm 48 Create - local short films, Colourfest

2:00 pm Two Days in September: The Corduroy Enduro special guests
John Dinsmure and Brittany Dinsmure, filmmakers

3:00 pm Canada's Best Kept Secret:
The Natural World of R.D. Lawrence special guests
Greg DeLiso, filmmaker and Sharon Lawrence

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